

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel Claims 12-20 without prejudice, amend Claims 1 and 9 as follows and add Claims 21-29:

1.(Currently Amended) Refrigerator and/or freezer system with

[-] ~~At~~ at least two refrigeration or freezer units (1,3), each having its own refrigeration component,

[-] ~~A~~ a common operating unit (7) for a minimum of two refrigeration or freezer units (1,3), and

[-] ~~A~~ a signal transmission component (5, 13) constituting the sole interconnection between the refrigeration or freezer units (1,3), for transmitting signals between the operating unit (7) and the refrigeration or freezer unit for the purpose of controlling the refrigeration or freezer units by the operating unit(7).

2. (Original) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 1, in which each refrigeration or freezer unit has its own control unit for controlling the pertinent refrigeration component, with the control units being connected with the operating unit (7) via the signal transmission component (5, 13).

3. (Previously presented) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 1, in which the common operating unit (7) is integrated into one of the refrigeration or freezer units (1, 3).

4. (Previously presented) Refrigeration and/or freezer system

according to claim 1, in which the refrigeration or freezer unit (1, 3) includes at least one refrigeration unit and one freezer unit.

5. (Previously presented) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 1, in which the system includes an ice-cube maker.

6. (Previously presented) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 1, in which the signal transmission component (5, 13) includes a bus system.

7. (Previously presented) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 1, in which the signal transmission component (5, 13) is connected by cable.

8. (Previously presented) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 1, in which the individual refrigeration and/or freezer units (1, 3) have a plug/connector system such that when the individual refrigeration and/or freezer units (1,3) are appropriately positioned in relation to each other, a plug of one of the refrigeration/freezer units (1, 3) works together with a corresponding connector of another refrigeration/freezer unit (1, 3) for purposes of signal transmission.

9. (Currently Amended) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 1, with

at least two refrigeration or freezer units (1,3), each having its own refrigeration component,

a common operating unit (7) for a minimum of two refrigeration or

freezer units (1,3), and

a signal transmission component (5,13) for transmitting signals between the operating unit (7) and the refrigeration or freezer unit for the purpose of controlling the refrigeration or freezer units by the operating unit (7).

in which the signal transmission component is a wireless transmission component.

10. (Previously presented) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 1, in which the signal transmission component includes the transmission of additional data, particularly refrigeration data or content data.

11. (Previously presented) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 2, in which the common operating unit (7) is integrated into one of the refrigeration or freezer units (1, 3).

Claims 12-20. Canceled.

21. (New) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 9, in which the signal transmission component includes the transmission of additional data, particularly refrigeration data or content data.

22. (New) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 9, in which each refrigeration or freezer unit has its own control unit for controlling the pertinent refrigeration component, with the control units being connected with the operating unit (7) via the signal transmission component (5, 13).

23. (New) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 9, in which the common operating unit (7) is integrated into one of the refrigeration or freezer units (1, 3).

24. (New) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 9, in which the refrigeration or freezer unit (1, 3) includes at least one refrigeration unit and one freezer unit.

25. (New) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 9, in which the system includes an ice-cube maker.

26. (New) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 9, in which the signal transmission component (5, 13) includes a bus system.

27. (New) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 1 wherein the individual units (1,3) are free-standing, with each said unit (1,3) coupled to said single operating unit (7) for central control.

28.(New) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 9 wherein the individual units (1,3) are free-standing, with each said unit (1,3) coupled to said single operating unit (7) for central control.

29.(New) Refrigeration and/or freezer system according to claim 9 wherein said signal transmission component (5, 13) constitutes the sole interconnection between the refrigerator and/or freezer units (1,3).